

MINI LESSON



Text Structure

ORGANIZING NARRATIVE

WRITING

Texts to Mimic

Writing Sequence and Transitions

In order to organize writing effectively, children must learn narrative and expository text structures. In both structures, readers will encounter leads (the first sentence(s), paragraph(s) or chapter that sets up the story and draws the reader in); sequence (the order of events); transitions (sentence to sentence and paragraph to paragraph progression); and conclusions (satisfying endings). Students can learn to organize their writing by mimicking picture book text structures, applying story structure to wordless picture books, studying expository structures and applying it by writing on topics they know, and practice sequencing their sentences and paragraphs together. Most writers tend to make lists. It's rare that a writer uses a graphic organizer. Organizers have their place, but once a child knows an organizer, they should be able to choose whether they need it or not (or choose which organizer works best for them).

- The Important Book by Margaret Wise Brown
- Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst
- Fortunately by Remy Charlip
- If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff
- The Mysteries of Harris Burdick by Chris Van Allsburg
- Tuesday 29, 1999 by David Wiesner
- Ruby the Copycat by Ruby Rathmann
- The Enormous Potato by Aubrey Davis
- The Giant Carrot by Jan Peck

